



SRMT Kawennì:ios

Helping Build a Better Tomorrow

Onerahtókha / April 2009

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Good Words of Welcome,

Reece was diagnosed with Autism PDD-NOS when he was three years old. He started school at Davis Elementary where they helped him learn how to express his thoughts and feelings. He received speech and occupational therapy as well as applied behavior analysis (ABA) training. When he was four years old, he was transferred to Nightingale Elementary School in Massena N.Y. There he continued to receive ABA training, along with speech and occupational therapy. Reece is now ten years old and is in fourth grade. He has many hobbies like collecting trains, and airplanes. Reece also loves learning about whales and spending time walking in the woods with his family Lorne Clute & Denise Francis of Akwesasne.

Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum disorder" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. The prevalence of autism had risen to 1 in every 150 American children, and almost 1 in 94 boys. There is no known single cause for autism, but increased awareness and funding can help families today.

To help support research into causes of autism, Reece's grandmother and mom created a beautiful quilt depicting a puzzle pattern that represents putting the pieces together for autistic children. The quilt will be presented to the winner of a raffle being organized within the community. Tickets will be available at the schools as well as various locations throughout Akwesasne. Tickets will be sold for \$5 each or three for \$10.

We hope you will be able to help support this cause during the Autism Awareness Month.

Thank you.

St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Sub-Chief
Pam Brown



Business After Hours

By David T. Staddon

The tradition of Mohawk hospitality was seen at the Tribe's *Business After Hours* event sponsored by the Tribe and hosted at the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino on April 9th. The Massena, Malone and St. Lawrence County Chambers of Commerce presented the event, so the approximate 300 people who attended were business owners and community leaders from neighboring areas. Members of the Tri-town and Cornwall Chambers of Commerce also attended the event.

Welcoming remarks were made by Public Information Director David Staddon and Casino Marketing Director Jay Tarbell, who kicked off the casino's 10th Year Anniversary celebration. During the program, remarks were given by Hugh Hill, President of the Malone



Words of congratulations were also given by John D. Sabini, Chairman of the New York State Racing and Wagering Board, and conveyed greetings from Governor David Paterson. Tribal Chief James Ransom noted that the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe was now the largest employer in the North Country, urged people to start thinking regionally and to work together for the betterment of northern New York. He also congratulated Dianna Tarbell for her accomplishments during the time she managed the casino.

The event featured live music and an excellent selection of hors d'oeuvres, allowing the casino to showcase its gaming floor and food and beverage amenities. The Tribe plans to host another *Business After Hours* event in September at the Mohawk Bingo Palace.



Chamber of Commerce, Pat McKeown, Executive Director of the St. Lawrence Chamber and Mike Gleason, Executive Director of the Massena Chamber. All speakers congratulated the casino and the tribe for its role in the regional economy and for its contributions and support of many local civic organizations. Gleason presented Casino General Manager Dianna Tarbell and Assistant Manager Darlene Dilcox with a certificate of appreciation for its 10th year of business.



Project Sticker Shock

Akwesasne Youth Target Underage Drinking

By Melerena Back,
Credentialed Prevention Specialist
Alcoholism Chemical Dependency Prevention Program

Youth leaders and the St. Regis Mohawk Health Services Alcoholism Chemical Dependency Prevention Program are working together to create a safer, healthier lifestyle by educating the community of underage drinking laws.

In a recent survey, alcohol has been identified as the #1 drug of choice of youth. Local community youth and the A/CDP Program joined forces in "Project Sticker Shock," a youth initiative to educate the public and change attitudes about selling and serving alcohol to minors.

Stickers warning about the penalties for furnishing alcohol to minors are placed on alcohol products. The sticker spells out a strong reminder "IT IS ILLEGAL TO BUY OR PROVIDE ALCOHOL FOR ANYONE UNDER 21!"

Underage drinking is a community concern and the most effective way to address it is through community involvement and participation.

The Youth Leaders and the A/CDP Program would like to thank the following businesses for their participation:

- CTs Convenience, Akwesasne
- Truck Stop #9, Akwesasne
- Fish's IGA, Fort Covington
- Leroux Quick Stop, Fort Covington
- Speedway Convenience, Akwesasne
- Collette's One Stop, Bombay
- First Americans IGA, Akwesasne



Local Youth Kickoff Alcohol Awareness Month by Educating Local Consumers

Tribe Acquires Historical Document

By David Staddon and Salli Benedict

A ten-page document acquired by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe describes the acquisition of Barnhart and Baxter Islands from the Akwesasne Community and the non-payment of rent. The unsigned document, dated January 1, 1851 has a stamp from the Massachusetts law firm of Owen and Hurlbut. How the document connects to the law firm is not clear.

The territory known as Akwesasne includes mainland, islands and waterways used by the Mohawks since time immemorial. It includes islands at Karokwi (Long Sault Rapids), the thousand islands region and those known as Baxter, Barnhart and Long Sault Islands.

The British Royal Proclamation of 1763 reassured the Akwesasne Mohawks that their lands and islands would be protected, and in 1784 restated the intent to reserve the islands for the Mohawks. The Treaty of Paris of 1783 placed Baxter and Barnhart Islands in British territory.

We are extremely grateful to Mr. Caron to allow us to have access to this important piece of history.

-Tribal Chief James Ransom

In 1790s, the St. Regis Chiefs leased the two islands to Asa Baxter, a U.S. citizen and to Jacob Barnhart, a United Empire Loyalist, who built a mill and houses on Barnhart Island. Evidence exists that the British Imperial Indian Department participated in rent collection.

After the War of 1812, the Treaty of Ghent created a Boundary Commission to set permanent boundaries between British and U. S. lands and adjusted the Treaty of Paris boundary. The British

wanted Wolfe Island to protect Kingston's military base and control Lake Ontario's entrance. They agreed to a trade: the U. S. would get Baxter and Barnhart Islands and Grand Island in the Niagara River. The Mohawks and Senecas, who owned Grand Island, were not consulted.

After the 1822 Boundary Commission report, New York issued deeds to Baxter and Barnhart Islands to the Ogden brothers, notorious land speculators and cousins to the Boundary Commission's surveyor. Though the Treaty of Ghent seemed to protect the rights of landholders where land passed from one country to another, they were successful in evicting Baxter and Barnhart.

The 1851 document petitions the New York Legislature to enforce rent payments for Barnhart and Baxter Islands and refers to previous land purchases as far back as 1796. Whether the document was forwarded to the legislature has not been established nor whether it had any effect to enforce the rent payments.



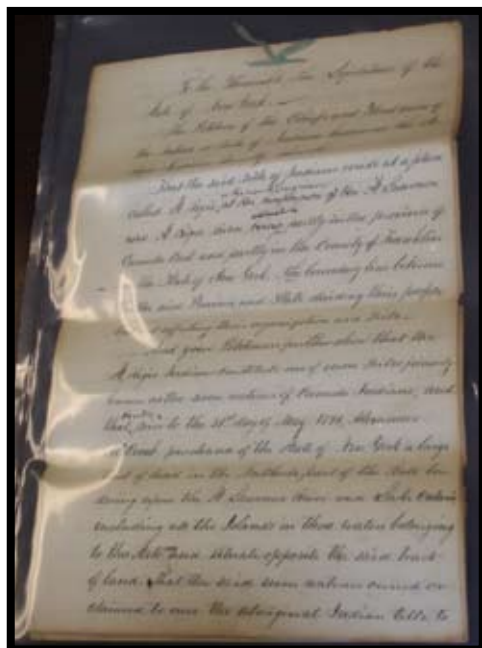
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Arnold Printup examines a copy of the document

Hand-written in beautiful copperplate style, the petition seems to be a preliminary draft with numerous cross-outs and ink blots. Written in the 19th century legal writing style, it is difficult reading, in terms of content and legibility, but outlines historically significant events for the tribe and the region.

Discovered in a trunk in Ogdensburg, it was auctioned in Potsdam on March 28th, 2009. Originating from an estate sale of the first attorneys residing in Ogdensburg, it refers to the Ogden's land grant; the start one of the first white settlements in the region.

Tribal Sub-Chief Pamela Brown was notified of the auction by tribal member Charles Kader and attended the auction to purchase the document. She was outbid by Greg Caron of Potsdam, who collects historic and patriotic memorabilia. "I was disappointed that I didn't get the winning bid, but happy that Mr. Caron contacted me to see if we were still interested," said Brown. After examining it, Caron contacted Brown to determine the Tribe's level of interest. "I knew that this was the right thing to do and the Tribe should own this piece of history," acknowledged Caron. Mr. Caron reportedly turned down a significantly large offer from another buyer and made the document available to the Tribe. He traveled to Akwesasne on March 31st to meet with Tribal Council and present the document.

"This important document is significant and will be placed in our museum," stated Tribal Chief Barbara Lazore. "We are pleased that Greg considered the Tribe's interest in the document."



1851 document



Members of Council and Greg Caron examine document

Tribal Chief James Ransom commented on the acquisition, "We are grateful to Mr. Caron to allow us to own this important piece of history. It was a pleasure meeting with him and examining the document. We want to determine more about its contents."

Arnold Printup, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, also examined the document and felt that it deserves further exploration, "I'd like to find out more about its significance and how it relates to community history. Hopefully, we can put together a team of experts for such a project."

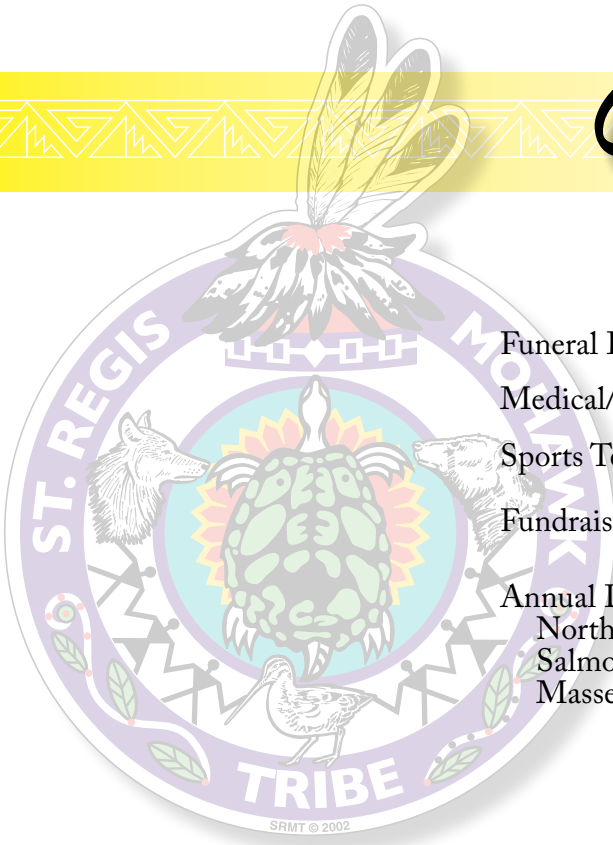
Monica Jacobs, Tribal Chief, added her thoughts, "Having this document in the museum is an important step in making our history available to the community. I'm sure that this decision will be appreciated." The Tribe plans to make a transcription of the document and place it on its website, www.srmt-nsn.gov, at a later date.

Whether or not the document has any legal bearing on any current Tribal issues is not clear, but further research may provide clues to its value. If other individuals have old documents, maps or pictures that may be of interest to the Tribe, they can contact Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Arnold Printup at 518-358-2272.

This important documentation is significant to the history of Akwesasne and will be placed in our museum for posterity

-Tribal Chief Barbara Lazore

Giving Back



Funeral Donations	\$ 500
Medical/Hardship Assistance	2,500
Sports Team	500
Fundraising Activity	250
Annual Donations:	
North Franklin Sports Association	5,000
Salmon River Athletic Association	2,000
Massena High School Athletic Association	2,000

On The Road

- Chief Barbara Lazore and Sub-Chiefs Ron LaFrance and Pam Brown traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with Laura Daniel Davis, Associate Deputy Secretary of the Interior.
- Chief James Ransom attended a National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) meeting in Washington DC.
- Chiefs Lazore and Ransom attended the RES 2009 conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- Chiefs Lazore, Ransom, Jacobs and Sub-Chief Pam Brown met with Governor Paterson in Albany.
- Chief Ransom attended a court hearing to discuss a lawsuit against the New York Post.
- Chief Jacobs met with Human Services representatives in New York City.
- Sub-Chief Ron LaFrance attended a Renewable Energy Project in Indian Country conference in Scottsdale, Arizona.

SRMT Kawennì:ios

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Calendar

Onerahtókha/April

25th - Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment Tree & Seed Giveaway

20th - Spring Cleanup starts - continues to Ohiarí:ha/June 5

Onerahtóhko:wa/May

2nd - Tribal Caucus - 10 am - Community Building

Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment Annual Roadside Cleanup

12th - Social Security Administration - 1:30 to 3:30 pm - Tribal Clerks Office

16th - Tribal Monthly Meeting - 10 am - Community Building

17th - Mountain Lake PBS Native American Series - 1 pm

25th - Memorial Day Holiday - Tribal Offices and Transfer Station Closed

Jobs

Water / Wastewater Operator - Planning & Infrastructure

Night Security - Partridge House

Per Diem Cook - Partridge House

Summer Student Interns (3) - Environment Water Quality Resources

Store Manager - First Americans IGA

Current postings and complete job descriptions are available online at: www.srmt-nsn.gov

New Faces

Douglas Hamilton Family Support

Nakkita Lazore Intensive Preventive Program

Ann Deer Let's Get Healthy

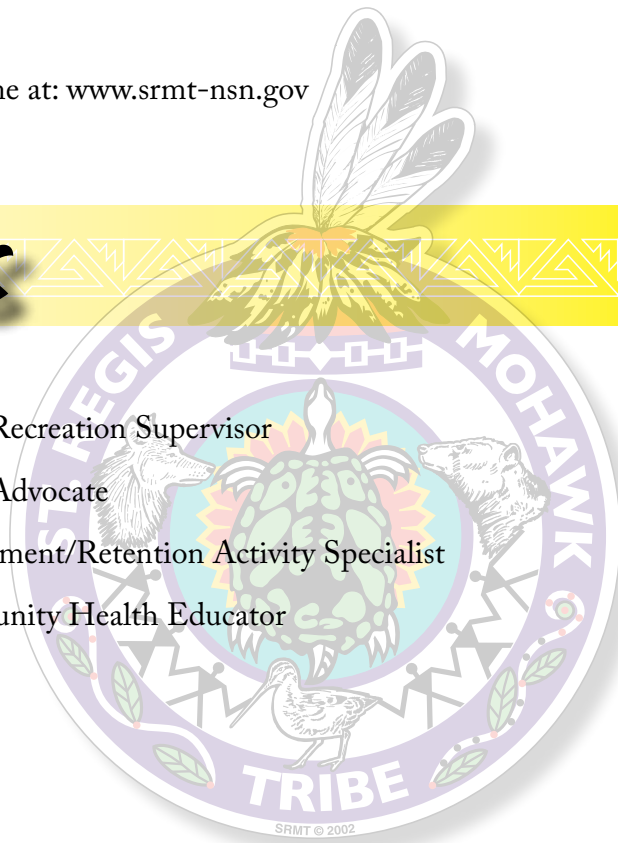
Diane Durant Let's Get Healthy

Youth Recreation Supervisor

Youth Advocate

Recruitment/Retention Activity Specialist

Community Health Educator



Business Feature

By Steven B. Cook

Akwesasne Employment Resource Center

A new resource center for job seekers and employers will open soon in Akwesasne. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT), Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) and Akwesasne Area Management Board (AAMB) are partnering to provide support for prospective employees and employers to “Connect to the World of Work”.

Job Resource Library

The AERC is a free walk-in service designed to help job seekers conduct an effective search. Support will be provided by a Resource Coach on skills vital for success when looking for work and accessing hidden job markets.

The AERC will provide the job search tools necessary to connect to success: computers, internet for job postings, job board, fax, phone and newspapers.

Job postings will be available for full-time, part-time, project based, seasonal and daily labor needs at all levels and sectors of the economy.

Job Finding Club

The AERC will offer a three week job search program for members of the community who are looking for employment, options, and opportunities.

Attendees will learn how to market themselves to employers through a structured skills development program:

- ☒ Develop a winning resume and cover letter;
- ☒ Learn **how to** and **when to** network;
- ☒ Do's and Don'ts at job interviews;
- ☒ Finding leads and hidden job markets;
- ☒ The value of transferable skills, abilities and experience;
- ☒ Connections to employers;
- ☒ Group support and individual coaching.

Employers

The AERC will maintain a listing of available and qualified job seekers. Special focus will be placed on ensuring all levels of the labor force from entry to top management are represented.

The AERC will assist employers to:

- ☒ Reduce effort and expense recruiting of qualified individuals;
- ☒ Increase your Native workforce;
- ☒ Build workforce partnerships;
- ☒ Develop a regional and international workforce.

Open the Door to your Future



The AERC will be located on the corner of State Route 37 and St. Regis Road and plans on opening in early Onerahtohko:wa/May 2009.

For more information contact:

SRMT Economic Development at 518-358-2272

MCA Economic Development at 613-575-2250

AAMB at 613-575-2626

New Service Available

By Laura Weber

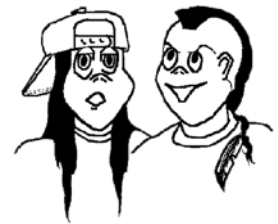
The Tribe's solid waste program reached another milestone with the recent purchase of a roll-off container. Acquiring a roll-off container was an objective for the past two years since the program receives numerous requests from community members to provide this type of service.

The roll-off container can be used for special cleanups around homes. Businesses may also schedule to use the container for any construction projects that they are working on.

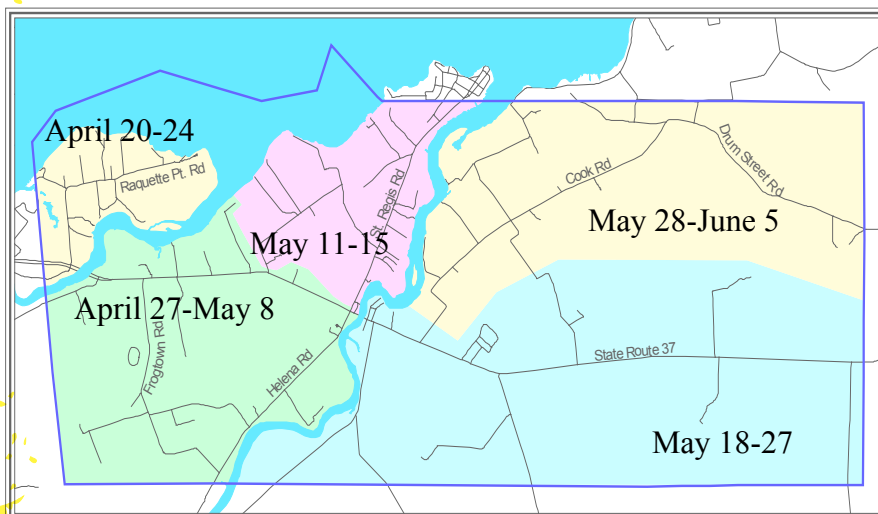
Community members or businesses can call the Tribe's transfer station, 518-358-4632 to schedule use of the roll-off container.

The Tribe will charge customers \$180 delivery/pickup fee plus the tip fee at the transfer station for use of the container.

Tribe Expanding Solid Waste Collection Services



Spring Cleanup Collection Areas



- Locate your house and determine which area you live in.
- Place your materials at the road two days prior to your area's collection dates.
- The Tribe will pick up your materials during your area's collection dates.
- The Tribe will not come back to collect materials if you put them out after your area has been collected.
- Please call 358-5937 if you have any questions.



Official Tribal Monthly Meeting

Onerahtókha/April 4, 2009

Chaired by Chief Barbara A. Lazore



1. Opening Greetings
 - Welcome
 - Reading of Action item(s) from last meeting
 - Adoption of Action Items
2. Election Ordinance - Danielle Thompson
3. Catskill Casino - Chief Barbara Lazore
4. Hiring Mohawk Employees - Steve Cook
5. New Business
6. Review of Action Items - Tribal Clerk
7. Closing Adjournment

Action items:

1. To define the purpose of the minutes at the Tribal meetings.
2. To have a more in-depth research into how the international border became a border and was our community involved in the process.
3. To have a report on the process of how the Tribe gives land to community members.

Action Item Follow-Up from March Tribal Meeting



1. Provide a date when the Tribal Budget will be ready for the community to vote on.
 - *The budget was presented at the April 2009 tribal meeting.*
2. Provide Statistical data on maintaining specific projects once the initial stimulus is gone.
 - *Administration is researching possible funding sources to carry on initiatives from the stimulus funding and should have something for review at a future Tribal meeting.*
3. Ask Steve Cook (Economic Development) to do a presentation on the hiring of native employees for Tribal projects.
 - *Steve Cook was at the April Tribal meeting to address the hiring of Mohawk employees.*
4. Extend an invitation to Steve Cook (Economic Development) to attend April's monthly meeting- if he's available.
 - *Steve Cook will be present at the April Tribal meeting.*
5. To have the TGF budget published and available.
 - *The budget will be available at the April Tribal meeting as a handout.*
6. To vote on the acceptance of the Tribal monthly meeting minutes at the beginning of the following month's meeting.
 - *Adoption of the action item report will be added to the monthly agenda right after the reading of the action items.*

Caucus

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Caucus will be held Saturday, Onerahtóhko:wa/May 2, 2009 in the Community Building at 10:00 a.m. The Election Board will call for nominations for the following elected positions:

- Tribal Chief - 3 year term
- Tribal Sub-Chief - 3 year term
- Tribal Clerk - 3 year term
- Referendum question(s) to be announced at a later date

Below are the eligibility criteria for candidates, voters and information for eligible voters who wish to vote by absentee ballot. Any questions regarding elections should be directed to the Election Board. The current board members are Mark Martin, Betty Roundpoint, Christine Horn and Katrina Jacobs. They can be reached at 518-358-2272.

Eligibility of Candidates

Candidates for Tribal Chief, Sub-Chief and Tribal Clerk must possess the following qualifications:

- Be at least thirty (30) years of age at the time of Election.
- Be an enrolled member of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe.
- Be an eligible voter of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe.
- Have been nominated by two (2) eligible voters of the Tribe. Eligibility of nominators will be determined at the time of nomination.
- Have resided on the U.S. portion of the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation or within an area designated by the Election Board as the Tribal land claims areas for at least one (1) year immediately prior to the annual election.
- Not have been convicted of any serious crime as defined by the Election and Referendum Ordinance and be willing to sign a release authorizing a criminal background check.
- Individuals must be willing to sign an affidavit stating they not only meet the above listed requirements but they are also a person of good character and sound judgment.

2009 Tribal Elections

- Shall be subject to and must pass a drug test prior to being declared an eligible candidate. The drug test must take place within three (3) business days of caucus. The results of the drug test shall remain on file for three (3) months following the election and may be used to establish or deny eligibility to run for office in a by election or special election held during this timeframe.

Eligibility of Voters

At the time of voting an eligible voter must:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- Be an enrolled member of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe.
- Reside in the United States or in the U.S. portion of Akwesasne for at least six (6) months prior to the election.
- Have their name on the most current eligible voters list.

Absentee Voting

Absentee ballots will be available for eligible voters beginning Onerahtóhko:wa/May 18, 2009 ending Ohiari:ha/June 3, 2009. Absentee ballots will not be mailed out after the end date. To vote by absentee ballot, please contact the Tribal Clerk's Office at 518-358-2272. For your vote to count, your application and ballots must be received by the election board by Ohiari:ha/June 6, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.

The official Tribal Election will be held on Ohiari:ha/June 6, 2009 from 9 am to 5 pm in the lobby of the Community Building.



What If Dolly Parton Topped Off?

By Angela Benedict-Dunn

Not that she actually fills her own tank. I am sure she has someone to do it for her; here in Akwesasne we do too. But I got your attention, didn't I?

Although you may not pump your gas you still have a say in whether it is topped off or not. Most of the gas station attendants are told to top off the tank but I don't think they realize what they are doing when they top off. Most cars and pumps have some type of vapor recovery in their tanks. When you fill up your tank some pumps take the gasoline vapor air from the gas tank and put it into their big tanks to displace the gas that has been pumped out. Some of the pumps don't have any vapor recovery so the air from your tank with the gas vapors just goes into the atmosphere. The more you fill your tank more vapors are released. The vapors from gasoline contain Benzene which is a cancer causing substance. Topping off the gas tank can also result in paying for gasoline that is fed back into the station's tanks because your gas



Did you Know...
Spilling one ounce of gasoline produces the same volatile organic compound emissions as a car driving 56 miles?

-Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District

- tank is full. Who wants to pay for gas that is not in your tank? When the gas nozzle automatically clicks off your tank is full. Remember you still pay for gas that evaporates or is spilled on the ground.

You also need extra room in your gas tank to allow the gasoline to expand. If you top off your tank, the extra gas may evaporate into your vehicle's vapor collection system. That system may become damaged and will not work properly causing your vehicle to run poorly and have high gas emissions. And we all know what high gas emissions do. So remember:

- Don't top off your gas tank;
- When the gas pump nozzle clicks off automatically, your tank is full;
- Topping off your gas tank is bad for the environment and your wallet.

Owera' shon: a (The Winds)

The idea of this column is to promote clean air practices in each of our homes, in our personal behaviors throughout each day, in line with our Mohawk cultural value system. In no way is this column meant to be an indictment of anything that you choose to do. Instead, this is in place as a simple thought-provoking tool, to reveal some good ideas and some interesting notions.

Please present any comments, complaints, or questions to Angela Benedict-Dunn, Air Quality Manager or Ken Jock, Environment Division Director. We welcome your thoughts and opinions.



Summer Employment

By Marie Cree-Benedict

Workforce Investment Act

Applications are now available for Summer Employment with the Workforce Investment Act Program.

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe receives federal funds under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). The program offers assistance in the areas of education, employment and training. The program is for the economically disadvantaged, unemployed or underemployed with income guideline restrictions. The students are placed with not-for-profit organizations and also work in various Tribal programs. New this year, WIA is accepting applicants up to age 24. The additional funding is being provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act initiative.

Youth between the ages of 14 and 24 are eligible to apply. The following information is required with application:

1. **Income Statements:** Reflecting household income six months prior to the application date. Must list all household members and relationship; income statements must be attached with application to determine WIA eligibility. Examples: copies of payroll stubs with/without year to date, 2008 W-2, Social Security, Public Assistance, or Unemployment Insurance confirmation.
2. **NYS Work Permit:** for those under the age of eighteen (18) years of age. Forms can be picked up at Salmon River or Massena Central School Guidance Department.
3. **Drug Free Workplace** requires that all selected candidates for employment must submit to and pass a drug test for controlled substances.

Failure to pass this test is grounds for denying employment with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe. Depending on the work site placement, the candidate may also require a criminal background check.

5. A copy of your **Tribal Status Card**.

Summer employees will be paid the rate of \$8.50 per hour. The summer program will last approximately five to six weeks with 30 to 40 hours per week based upon funding. The deadline for applications is Ohiari:ha/ June 05, 2009.

In past years, WIA has placed students with the Tribe's Environment Division, Seniors, Indian Health Services, Let's Get Healthy, Transfer Station, Water Facility, First Americans IGA, JOM and ECDP Headstart programs. Placements at not-for-profit organizations include the Mohawk Indian Housing Summer Recreation program and the Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club. WIA makes every attempt to place eligible students in a location corresponding to their career interests.

*An investment
in our young
people builds a
prepared and
competitive
workforce.*

Please contact Marie Cree-Benedict at 518-358-2272 ext. 217 if you have any questions or need additional information. Application forms are available at the WIA Office, Community Building, Monday through Friday between 8 am and 4 pm.

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe is an equal opportunity employer. Native Preference applies in filling these positions. Applicants not entitled to Native preference will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin.

Teleconference

Diversity and End-of-Life Care Teleconference

Sponsored by SRMT Office for the Aging and Hospice of the North Country. The program is free of charge to the general public. A small fee is required for continuing education credits. Three hours of CE credits are available for nurses, social workers, case managers, funeral directors, clergy and others.

It will be held Wednesday, Onerahtoka/ April 29th, 2009 from 1:30 to 4:30pm at the SRMT Environment Division, 449 Frogtown Road, Akwesasne Business Center.

Contact Mary Grow at the Office for the Aging at 358-2963 for more information or to reserve your spot.

Higher Education

Hey, are you going back to college? Have you got your FAFSA done yet? Don't forget those application dates for the fall semester- New York State Indian Aid, and the St. Regis Mohawk Higher Education program of Ohiarikho:wa/July 15, 2009.

St. Lawrence University Graduate Course

EDPS 547. Counseling Children & Adolescents.

Larry Casey- Instructor

An investigation of the issues faced in counseling individuals who are not yet adults - children and adolescents. The course will examine how research and theory on child and adolescent development impacts counseling approaches and strategies. It will also examine

some of the most significant issues young people face - development of identity, changes in family structure, and societal values - and how counselors working in schools and community agencies can help children and adolescents to cope and adapt successfully.

The class begins Onerahtóhko:wa/May 18, 2009 at 4 pm at the Community Building in the upstairs boardroom. For more information, contact Rod Cook at 358-2272.

If you are considering college for the fall semester, please do not wait for the last moment to do it.

Good luck with your finals.

Kanien'keha tsitewata:ti

Let's all speak Mohawk again.

The language lab now open in the lower level of the Community Building. Use the doors at the back of the building and follow the signs. We have five computers and there is NO CHARGE.

Take the time to come in and try the program if you would like to learn or relearn our language.

The hours are:

Monday, Thursday and Friday - 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Tuesday - 1 to 4 P.M.

- Class for Elders/Speakers-read and write Mohawk through Music.

Wednesday - 1 to 7 P.M.

Consideration will be given to Saturday hours if enough interest is shown. Onkwawen:na Tsi tewata:ti.

Carole Ross - 518-358-2272 ext. 405

Annual Roadside Cleanup

By Craig Arquette

The Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment (ATFE), St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Environment Division, and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of the Environment, Honoring our Mother Earth, and the Haudenosaunee Environmental Task Force are committed to take action to revitalize the natural environment and has various initiatives throughout the year to reach this commitment. The annual Roadside Clean Up is an example of that commitment to Mother Earth.

The Akwesasne Annual Roadside Cleanup Day is scheduled for Saturday, Onerahtóhko:wa/May 2, 2009 and the rain date is Onerahtóhko:wa/May 9, 2009.

We are seeking assistance from members of our community in making this year's Cleanup Day a huge success. We need volunteers for setting up on the morning of the event, work the gas grills for the cook out, and organizing door prizes.

We have the use of several Tribal vehicles for picking up the bags of trash. We may need few volunteers to drive these vehicles or ride along to pick up the bags of roadside trash. However, if you volunteer to drive,

you **MUST** be a Tribal Employee.

If you are a member of an organization, like a sports team, that has received money from the Tribe's Community Assistance Fund, then participating in our Roadside Cleanup will fulfill your obligation to perform community service. Your organization can either help with the jobs described above, or your group can sign up to cleanup the ditches. ATFE also

has other projects, such as our Tree and Seed Day, and our apple orchard, where any help from the community will always be greatly appreciated.

The business owners in and around our community can also assist with the Road Side Cleanup as well. Every year our volunteers deliver letters to your establishments requesting a donation to support the event. You can show your support by either making a monetary contribution, or donating an item for the door prizes or a food item for the cook.

For additional information contact:

Craig Arquette at the Environment Division, 518-358-5937 ext 120.

E-mail: craig.arquette@srmt-nsn.gov

2008



Jerry Cook and daughter Kelly, and Tracey Francis and son Troy tackle Cook Road.



A well-deserved lunch is enjoyed by Debbie Cook and granddaughter, Emma.

Showing in May: A Blackfeet Encounter



Mountain Lake PBS
Native American series on
Onerahtóhko:wa/May 17th
at 1:00 p.m.

In the summer of 1806, the Lewis and Clark Expedition headed home from the Pacific Ocean. But Meriwether Lewis had not yet accomplished a mission from Thomas Jefferson, which would take him into the heart of Blackfeet country in what is now Montana and force him into the expedition's only life-or-death encounter with a party of Blackfeet Indians.

Not only did this chance confrontation put a new perspective on a peaceful expedition, it impacted the fate of the Blackfeet people forever. *A Blackfeet Encounter* uncovers the rich Blackfeet history and culture, traces the aftermath of the expedition's arrival and illustrates the challenges and triumphs of the Blackfeet people today.

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